



Ontario Strengthening Access to End-of-Life Care in Niagara

Province Announces Funding Increase to Hospice Services as Part of \$75 Million Investment

As part of the 2016 Budget, Ontario is investing an additional \$75 million over three years to provide patients with more options and access to community-based palliative and end-of-life care. As a first step, Ontario is increasing investments in hospice services across the province by \$13.9 million over three years, including Hospice Niagara in St. Catharines and the McNally House Hospice in Grimsby.

As part of its commitment to strengthening access to palliative and end-of-life care, the \$13.9 million additional investment across the province will increase funding for existing hospice beds by \$15,000 per adult bed and \$22,400 per pediatric bed. Hospice Niagara in St. Catharines will be receiving a funding increase of \$150,000 and McNally House Hospice in Grimsby will be receiving an increase of \$90,000.

The increased funding for existing hospice beds will help ensure that the high-quality palliative and end-of-life care provided by hospices remains in the community for future generations. This investment will enhance compassionate end-of-life support that relieves suffering and improves the quality of living and dying.

Improving palliative care is part of the government's plan to build a better Ontario through its [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#), which is providing patients with faster access to the right care, better home and community care, the information they need to stay healthy and a health care system that's sustainable for generations to come. It is also part of Ontario's [Patients First: Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#), which is the government's plan to improve and expand home and community care over the next three years.

QUOTES

"Hospices provide Ontarians and their families with high quality and compassionate palliative and end-of-life care. Supporting Ontario's hospices so they can continue to provide excellent care is an important part of our government's commitment to improve palliative and end-of-life care across the province."

- Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"Hospices are special places that provide compassionate care to patients and families at a challenging time in their lives. They are a critical part of Ontario's plan to ensure access to high quality palliative and end-of-life care."

- John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"This funding increase to Hospice Niagara and the McNally House Hospice will help Niagara residents receive excellent end-of-life care in the community. Enhancing hospice care will ensure citizens have access to high-quality care to maintain their dignity in life and death."

- Jim Bradley, MPP for St. Catharines

"This funding represents an important investment that will enhance community-based hospice palliative care services for Niagara residents. It will improve access to high-quality coordinated care, increase the availability support services and help to better ensure that patients' needs and wishes for end-of-life care are met."

- Michael Shea, Chair, Board of Directors, HNHB LHIN

“Hospice palliative care is a community-driven initiative, supported by local donors and volunteers, as well as Government. We want to acknowledge and thank Parliamentary Assistant John Fraser for his leadership this past year in developing a comprehensive strategy for palliative and end-of-life services for Ontario.”

- Pamela Blackwood, Executive Director, McNally House Hospice

“Government support is crucial to help meet the need for care, particularly, given the demand for end-of-life services. This demand could overwhelm the health care system unless we expand access to hospice palliative care. This is a wonderful step in meeting this need and being able to provide hospice palliative care services to everyone, everywhere, every time in Niagara.”

- Carol Nagy, Executive Director, Hospice Niagara

QUICK FACTS

- As part of the 2016 Budget, Ontario announced an additional investment of \$75M in hospice and palliative care over the next three years. This additional spending will be on top of the \$80 million already invested in hospice and palliative care, bringing the total investment to \$155 million from April 2016 to April 2019.
- Ontario is providing funding increases for 39 facilities that provide hospice care across the province and is committed to supporting up to 20 additional hospices.
- Ontario recently released the [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#), which compiled feedback from province-wide consultations led by John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. The report will help Ontario develop a comprehensive strategy on palliative and end-of-life care, which will focus on supporting families and caregivers, and ensuring access to co-ordinated quality care where patients want it.
- Ontario recently launched the Ontario Palliative Care Network, a partnership among Cancer Care Ontario, Ontario’s Local Health Integration Networks, Health Quality Ontario and other partners, including members from diverse care settings and caregivers, clinical representatives and associations.

LEARN MORE

- [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#)
- [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)
- [Ontario’s Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#)
- [Hospice Palliative Care Ontario](#)

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